



2004-2005 WATERFOWL HUNTING DIGEST

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION



Waterfowl Hunting Digest 2004–2005

Missouri Department of Conservation
P.O. Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180
(573) 751-4115
www.missouriconservation.org

Table of Contents

Permit and Stamp Requirements	3
Where To Purchase Permits	3
Managed Waterfowl Hunting Areas	4
Zone Descriptions	5
Conservation Order	5
Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days	6
Ducks and Coots	6
Adaptive Harvest Management	7
Wetland Status	7
Duck Status	8
Canvasback and Pintail Status	8
Duck ID Tips	8
Report Your Bands	9
Geese	10
Reduced Canada Goose Bag Limit . . .	10
Managing Canada Goose Populations .	10
Goose Season Hunter Preferences . . .	11
Falconry Season	11
Federal Regulations Summary	12
Shot Requirements	14
Sunrise/Sunset Table	15
Waterfowl Season Table	16



Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, or U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 18th and C Streets NW, Washington, D.C. 20240, Missouri Relay Center —1-800-735-2966 (TDD).

2004–2005 Waterfowl Hunting Outlook

The outlook for 2004 is less optimistic than in recent years. Dryer wetland conditions, lower breeding duck numbers, and a reduced mallard fall flight, combined with prospects of a late spring and poor production in primary Canada goose breeding areas, will undoubtedly lower hunter expectations during fall 2004.

In spite of a decline in duck and goose numbers, Missouri hunters will have a 60-day duck season and a more than 70-day Canada goose season for the eighth consecutive year. Season dates will continue to provide opportunity for a variety of hunting styles, including early and late season hunting preferences.

Habitat conditions, the timing of migration, and weather are more important than the size of the fall flight in determining when birds arrive, whether or not they stop, and how long they remain in Missouri. During dry years, fewer ducks stop in Missouri and those that do tend to remain on managed areas. Although dry years tend to favor hunting opportunities on managed public and private areas, only about 15 percent of the statewide harvest typically occurs on intensively managed Conservation Department wetland areas.

In wet years, excellent habitat conditions are distributed along floodplains, and ducks disperse widely in search of opportunistic feeding areas, particularly in response to a weather event.

Permit and Stamp Requirements

To pursue, take, possess, and transport ducks, coots, and geese in Missouri, all hunters, unless exempt, must have in their possession three permits. Persons born on or after Jan. 1, 1967, must have completed an approved hunter education program in Missouri or elsewhere and display a Hunter Education Certificate Card before buying any firearms hunting permit, but a card need not be displayed if certification can be verified at the vendor's computer terminal.

1. Missouri residents age 16 through 64, unless exempt, and nonresidents age 16 and older, must have one of the following:
 - Missouri *Resident Small Game Hunting Permit* \$10
 - Missouri *Resident Hunting & Fishing Permit* \$19
 - Missouri *Daily Small Game Hunting Permit* \$11
 - Missouri *Nonresident Small Game Hunting Permit* \$65

Exemption: Missouri resident landowners on their own land do not need any of the above.
2. In addition to one of the above, residents and nonresidents age 16 and older also must have a:
 - Missouri *Migratory Bird Hunting Permit* \$6

Note: Purchase of this permit satisfies requirements for Migratory Game Bird Harvest Registration (HIP).
3. In addition to the permits listed above, all hunters age 16 and older also must have a:
 - Federal *Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp* \$15

Note: This federal “duck” stamp must be signed in ink across the face.

Permit requirements for hunters aged 15 and under

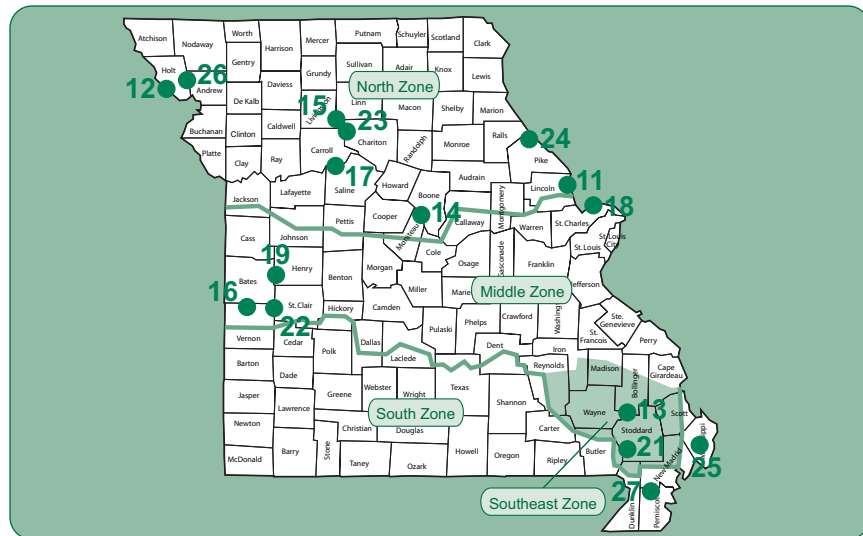
- Resident and nonresident hunters age 15 and under are not required to purchase any permits to hunt ducks, coots or geese in Missouri. However, they must either be in the immediate presence of a properly licensed adult hunter, or have in their possession a valid Hunter Education Certificate Card while hunting.

Where to Purchase Permits

Purchase the Missouri *Small Game Hunting Permit* and the Missouri *Migratory Bird Hunting Permit*:

- over the counter from any permit vendor
 - by telephone anytime at (800) 392-4115*
 - on-line anytime at www.wildlifelicense.com/mo*
- *Credit card and \$2 per person surcharge required. You must have your permits in hand when you go afield to hunt. Allow 10 days for delivery.

Purchase the federal *Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp* (duck stamp) at U.S. Post Offices and selected permit vendors.



Managed Waterfowl Hunting Areas

- 11 B.K. Leach Mem. C.A. (1,414 acres), Hwy. 79, 4 miles south of Elsberry to Rt. M, then east 3 miles. Elsberry Office: 573/898-5905. Drawing will be held at addition.
- 12 Bob Brown C.A. (3,302 acres), 2.5 miles west of Forest City off Hwy. 111. Chillicothe Office: 660/646-6122
- 13 Duck Creek C.A. (3,234 acres), Puxico, Duck Creek
HQ: 573/222-3337
- 14 Eagle Bluffs C.A. (4,839 acres), 6 miles southwest of Columbia near McBaine. Columbia Office: 573/445-3882
- 15 Fountain Grove C.A. (7,155 acres), Rt. W, 5 miles south of Meadville off Hwy. 36. Chillicothe Office: 660/646-6122
- 16 Four Rivers C.A. (13,732 acres), Hwy. 71, 15 miles north of Nevada to Hwy. TT, then east 1 mile. Four Rivers HQ: 417/395-2341
- 17 Grand Pass C.A. (5,101 acres), 5 miles southwest of Miami. Chillicothe Office: 660/646-6122
- 18 Marais Temps Clair C.A. (935 acres), Hwy. 94 north of St. Charles to Hwy. H & Island Road. Busch Office: 314/877-6014
- 19 Montrose C.A. (3,979 acres), 12 miles west of Clinton on Hwy. 18, then south 4 miles on Hwy. RA. Montrose HQ: 660/693-4666
- 21 Otter Slough C.A. (4,866 acres), Southwest of Dexter on Hwy. ZZ. Otter Slough HQ: 573/624-5821
- 22 Schell-Osage C.A. (8,634 acres), 1/2 mile south and east of Schell City. Schell-Osage HQ: 417/432-3414
- 23 Swan Lake N.W.R. (2,500 acres), Between the towns of Sumner & Mendon. Swan Lake HQ: 660/856-3323
- 24 Ted Shanks C.A. (6,705 acres), 16 miles north of Louisiana & 18 miles south of Hannibal. Exit Hwy. 79 & follow Rt. TT. Office: 573/754-6171
- 25 Ten Mile Pond C.A. (3,755 acres), 5 miles south of East Prairie on Hwy. 102. Ten Mile Pond HQ: 573/649-2770
- 26 Nodaway Valley C.A. (3,833 acres), Hwy B, 8 miles north of Hwy 59/B intersection. Chillicothe Office: 660/646-6122
- 27 Little River C.A. (1,036 acres), Hwy NN, 4 miles east of Kennett off Hwy 84. Otter Slough HQ: 573/649-2770

North Zone: That portion of Missouri north of a line running west from the Illinois border at Lock and Dam 25; west on Lincoln County Hwy. N to Mo. Hwy. 79; south on Mo. Hwy. 79 to Mo. Hwy. 47; west on Mo. Hwy. 47 to I-70; west on I-70 to U.S. Hwy. 54; south on U.S. Hwy. 54 to U.S. Hwy. 50; west on U.S. Hwy. 50 to the Kansas border.

Middle Zone: The remainder of Missouri not included in other zones.

Southeast Zone: That portion of Missouri west of a line beginning at the intersection of Mo. Hwy. 34 and I-55, south on I-55 to U.S. Hwy. 62; west on U.S. Hwy. 62 to Mo. Hwy. 53; north on Mo. Hwy. 53 to Mo. Hwy. 51; north on Mo. Hwy. 51 to U.S. Hwy. 60; west on U.S. Hwy. 60 to Mo. Hwy. 21; north on Mo. Hwy. 21 to Mo. Hwy. 72; east on Mo. Hwy. 72 to Mo. Hwy. 34; east on Mo. Hwy. 34 to I-55.

South Zone: That portion of Missouri south of a line running west from the Illinois border on Mo. Hwy. 34 to I-55; south on I-55 to U.S. Hwy. 62; west on U.S. Hwy. 62 to Mo. Hwy. 53; north on Mo. Hwy. 53 to Mo. Hwy. 51; north on Mo. Hwy. 51 to U.S. Hwy. 60; west on U.S. Hwy. 60 to Mo. Hwy. 21; north on Mo. Hwy. 21 to Mo. Hwy. 72; west on Mo. Hwy. 72 to Mo. Hwy. 32; west on Mo. Hwy. 32 to U.S. Hwy. 65; north on U.S. Hwy. 65 to U.S. Hwy. 54; west on U.S. Hwy. 54 to the Kansas border.

Swan Lake Zone has been eliminated: Since the 1970s, the number of Eastern Prairie Population Canada geese using the Swan Lake Zone has declined steadily and by 1998, less than 5 percent of the statewide harvest occurred there. Consequently, the Swan Lake Zone, which was established in 1962, has been eliminated because it no longer contributes to Canada goose harvest management.

Spring 2005 Conservation Order *(see back cover for dates)*

A light goose Conservation Order was implemented to reduce the rapidly increasing numbers of snow and Ross's geese causing damage to portions of the fragile arctic tundra. The 2004 Mid-winter Waterfowl Survey estimated 2.15 million mid-continent light geese, which is 12 percent fewer than last year. After peaking at nearly 3 million in 1998, light geese appear to have declined by about 2 percent per year. A decline in mid-continent light geese since 1998, combined with increasing recovery rates and decreasing survival rates in some areas, hopefully signals that population control efforts are beginning to have an impact.

Spring 2005 will mark the seventh consecutive year of the Conservation Order. During that time, hunters may use electronic calls and unplugged shotguns until 1/2 hour after sunset to take and possess any number of lesser snow (white and blue color phase) and Ross's geese.

Note: A valid *Missouri Migratory Bird Hunting Permit* (\$6) is the only permit required for residents and nonresidents during the light goose Conservation Order.

Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days

There are two youth-only waterfowl hunting days in each zone for ducks, geese, and coots. Participating youth hunters *must* be age 15 or younger and *must* be accompanied by a properly licensed (*i.e., Missouri Small Game Hunting Permit*) adult (age 18 or older) who is *not* allowed to hunt ducks, geese or coots.

Note: A non-hunting adult is not required to be licensed *if* the youth carries a valid Hunter Education Certificate Card.

- Shooting Hours:** 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset
- Season Dates:** *North Zone:* Oct. 23–24
 - Middle Zone:* Oct. 30–31
 - Southeast Zone:* same as Middle Zone
 - South Zone:* Nov. 20–21

Limits: The same as during the regular waterfowl season (including one pintail and one canvasback).

Ducks and Coots

Each year we randomly survey 5,500 migratory bird permittees to determine harvest levels and hunter satisfaction regarding season dates and hunting overall. The 2003-04 survey indicated that hunters prefer a later season for ducks. Consequently, duck season dates were moved back five days for the latest opening date ever. Effects of this change will be closely monitored.

- Shooting Hours:** 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset
- Season Dates:** see table on back cover
- Limits:**

Coots	.15 daily and 30 in possession.
Ducks:	The daily bag limit of ducks is 6 and may include no more than:
Mallard	.4
	[but no more than 2 females]
Scaup	.3
Redhead	.2
Wood duck	.2
Black duck	.1
Hooded merganser	.1
Pintail (during the prescribed season)	.1
Canvasback (during the prescribed season)	.1
Other species	may be taken in any number up to the daily bag limit of 6 ducks total.

The **possession limit** of ducks is 12 (twice the daily bag limit; varies by species.)

Adaptive Harvest Management

Adaptive Harvest Management was implemented in 1995 to provide an open, objective framework for establishing annual waterfowl hunting regulations. Development of regulations requires agreeing on a harvest management objective, a limited number of regulations options and having accurate estimates of populations and harvest. Models are developed to better understand the relationships between harvest rates, mallard population dynamics, and habitat conditions. Currently four regulations options are available, depending upon the status of mid-continent mallards and May pond numbers in Prairie Canada:



- a liberal season of 60 days, 6 ducks, 4 mallards including 2 hens
- a moderate season of 45 days, 6 ducks, 4 mallards including 1 hen
- a restrictive season of 30 days, 3 ducks, 2 mallards including 1 hen
- a closed season

This management protocol is based solely on the status of mid-continent mallards. Protection of other species that are below objective levels (such as pintails and canvasbacks) is through other provisions, which include limiting the number of days within the overall season framework. When recommending duck seasons, population status and habitat conditions are primary considerations. For 2004, even though wetland conditions and pond numbers are down from last year, breeding mallards are near the long-term average, which allows for a liberal 60-day season. For more information, go to: <http://migratorybirds.fws.gov/mgmt/AHM/AHM-intro.htm>

Wetland Status

Reports of above-average snowfall in portions of southern Canada during winter 2003-2004 raised expectations for improved wetland habitat conditions. However, dry soil conditions, combined with warm, windy weather during April, resulted in a poor frost seal and little runoff. As a result, the number of May ponds in Prairie Canada and the north-central United States was down 24 percent from last year and 19 percent below the long-term average. The decline was greatest in Canada where pond numbers dropped 29 percent from last year in spite of heavy snowfall in portions of the southern prairies on May 12-13.

Duck Status

Total duck numbers in the traditional survey area decreased 11 percent from 36.2 million in 2003 to 32.2 million in 2004, and were 3 percent below the long-term average. Duck numbers were generally down in southern Canada—Alberta by 7 percent, Saskatchewan by 38 percent, Manitoba by 7 percent—but increased by 15 percent in northern Saskatchewan, northern Manitoba and western Ontario. Increases in northern areas are often noted when the southern prairies are dry. A 2004 breeding population estimate for mid-continent mallards of 8.36 million is similar to the 8.8 million estimate in 2003. The fall flight index for mallards is projected to be 9.4 million, compared to 10.3 million in 2003.

Canvasback and Pintail Status

Overall season length and bag limits are based on the status of mallards. When other species such as pintails or canvasbacks fall below objective levels, special provisions are considered to provide protection. The objective for canvasbacks to maintain a breeding population of at least 500,000 would likely not be achieved if one canvasback per day was allowed for a full 60-day season. Pintail numbers remain 48 percent below their long-term average. Consequently, the season length for canvasbacks and pintails is 30 days. The first 30 days of the 60-day duck season was selected because that is when most hunters are afield and duck identification is most difficult.

Duck Identification Tips

With increased use of species restrictions in the daily bag, the need for hunters to identify their target before shooting becomes even more important. Hunters should have in mind what species are expected to be present during the particular time of year, time of day and in the habitat they are hunting. Once ducks are spotted, the flight characteristics of the flock will help. Small, compact, fast-flying flocks are more likely to be teal or shovelers, as compared to mallards, pintails or wigeon that are more likely to be seen in loose flocks. Divers tend to have a faster wing beat than dabblers, and canvasbacks tend to shift from wavy lines to V's.

Color and individual silhouettes become more important when ducks are closer. Pintails are long and sleek with pointed wings, tails, and narrow necks. The prominent sloped bill of the canvasback is readily visible within gun range.

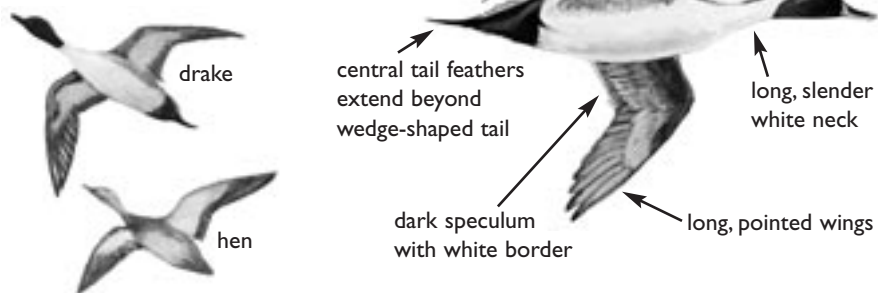
For additional help in identifying ducks, purchase the Conservation Department's 16-minute video, "The Key to Duck ID" (\$7.50), by calling toll-free 877-521-8632.

***If unsure of
the species,
the safest
bet is to
not shoot!***

Pintail

These slender, graceful and fast fliers, often zig-zagging from great heights before leveling off to land. Drakes whistle. Hens have a course *quack*.

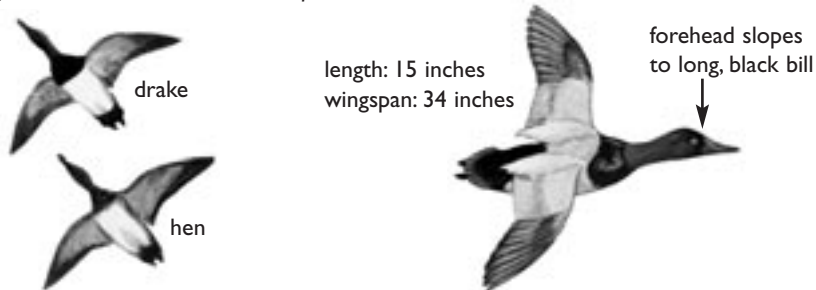
length: 18.5 inches
wingspan: 35 inches



Canvasback

The swiftest of all ducks, the canvasback has a rapid and noisy wingbeat. Drakes *croak*, *peep* and *growl*. Hens have a mallard-like *quack*.

length: 15 inches
wingspan: 34 inches



REPORT YOUR BANDS CALL 1-800-327-BAND

Bird banding programs provide valuable information on a wide variety of migratory game birds. Bands recovered and reported by hunters provide important information about survival, migration, and harvest rates and distribution.

To report band numbers from all types of birds (not just waterfowl or other game birds), call 1-800-327-BAND (2263). You will receive a certificate of appreciation and information about the bird you reported. The band is yours to keep! You can also report bands on the internet at www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl



Geese

Shooting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

Season Dates: See table on the back cover.

Limits:

The **daily bag limits** of geese are:

Blue, snow & Ross's (all species combined)	.20
White-fronted	.2
Brant	.1
Canada:	
North Zone:	
Sept. 25–Oct. 11	.3
Oct. 30–Nov. 28	.2
Dec. 26–Jan. 24	.1
Middle Zone:	
Sept. 25–Oct. 14	.3
Nov. 6–30	.2
Jan. 1–30	.1
Southeast & South zones:	
Oct. 2–12	.3
Nov. 26–Jan. 30	.2

The **possession limits** of geese are twice the daily bag limits, except there is no possession limit for blue, snow and Ross's geese.

Reduced Canada Goose Bag Limit

A production bust for the Eastern Prairie Population (EPP) of Canada geese results in a reduced bag limit from 2 to 1 for Canada geese during the late season in the North and Middle zones.

A very late spring near Hudson Bay in Canada led to one of the worst production years on record for EPP Canada geese. The daily bag limit reduction from 2 to 1 during the late split in the North and Middle zones is designed to reduce EPP Canada goose harvest by 25 percent; comparable reductions are in effect in the other states that account for most of the EPP harvest. Because EPP Canada geese do not arrive in Missouri until December or January and do not reach the South Zone in large numbers, both early season and South Zone bag limits are similar to recent years.

Managing for Several Canada Goose Populations

Canada goose hunting seasons are set to keep giant Canada goose populations in check without overharvesting Eastern Prairie Population (EPP) Canada geese. In Missouri, no more than 30 days of Canada goose hunting are allowed after Nov. 30 in the North and Middle zones when EPP geese are most likely to be present. Neighboring states to the east and west do not

consider EPP Canada geese in their regulations because they harvest a smaller proportion of them. However, they do consider other populations of Canada geese that migrate into their states in greater numbers. Populations of Canada geese that migrate from northern Canada require special consideration because they have not experienced the same population growth as has the giant Canada geese that are found in the Midwest year-round.

Hunter Preferences for Canada Goose Season

Canada goose seasons are based primarily on resource status, but we also consider hunter preferences. Surveys indicate that many hunters think it important to have early season opportunity (56 percent), a concurrent duck and goose opener (48 percent), concurrent duck and goose hunting days (82 percent), and an as-late-as-possible goose season (72 percent). A growing number of hunters have indicated a desire for later Canada goose hunting opportunity. In response, the 2004-05 Canada goose season will continue to provide early season opportunity, a concurrent duck and Canada goose season opener, and a closing date nearly a week later than last year. A trade-off of closing the last 30-day split a week later in the Middle Zone is the loss of hunting opportunity during the last week of December.

Falconry Season for Ducks, Coots & Mergansers

Hunting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

Season Dates: *North Zone:* Sept. 11–19 & Sept. 25–Dec. 28

Middle Zone: Sept. 11–19 & Sept. 29–Jan. 4

South Zone: Sept. 11–19 & Oct. 19–Jan. 24

Limits: The **daily bag limit** is 3 and the **possession limit** is 6, singly or in the aggregate.

BE AN ETHICAL HUNTER

- ☑ **Respect Other Hunters**—Your enjoyment, and theirs, will result from mutual courtesy in the marsh.
- ☑ **Respect the Rules**—Know all state and federal regulations before hunting.
- ☑ **Respect Biology**—We share responsibility for migratory bird and wetland resources throughout North America.
- ☑ **Respect the Waterfowl Hunting Tradition**—Setting up too close or downwind of other hunters is neither safe nor ethical.
- ☑ **Respect the Resource**—Be sure that birds are in range and that you identify your target before shooting.


Federal Regulations Summary

In addition to state regulations, the following federal rules apply to the taking, possession, transportation, shipment, and storage of waterfowl and other migratory birds. (**NOTE:** This is only a summary; refer to Title 50, Part 20 of the Code of Federal Regulations at www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/):

RESTRICTIONS: No person shall take waterfowl and/or other migratory game birds:

- ✦ With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- ✦ With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- ✦ From a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- ✦ From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. Paraplegic means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.
- ✦ From or by means of any motorboat or sailboat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased.
- ✦ By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame, or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
- ✦ Using records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls.
- ✦ By driving, rallying, or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sailboat to put them in the range of the hunters.
- ✦ By the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt, or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement), or on or over any baited area. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is or was baited to be in violation. Agricultural areas must be prepared in accordance with official recommendations

to be legally hunted. It is a separate offense to place bait on or adjacent to an area that causes, induces, or allows another to hunt by the aid of bait or over a baited area.

 While possessing shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzle-loading) other than steel shot or such shot approved as nontoxic by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

CLOSED SEASON: No person shall take migratory game birds during the closed season.

SHOOTING OR HAWKING HOURS: No person shall take migratory game birds except during the hours open to shooting and hawking as prescribed.

DAILY BAG LIMIT: No person shall take in any one day more than one daily bag limit.

FIELD POSSESSION LIMIT: No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, hunting camp, motel, etc.

WANTON WASTE: All migratory game birds killed or crippled shall be retrieved, if possible, and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field.

TAGGING: No person shall give, put, or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:

1. The hunter's signature.
2. The hunter's address.
3. Hunting permit number.
4. The total number of birds involved, by species.
5. The dates such birds were killed.

No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

POSSESSION OF LIVE BIRDS: Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

DRESSING: No person shall completely field dress any migratory game bird (except doves) and then transport the birds from the field. The head or one full-feathered wing must remain attached to all such birds while being transported from the field to one's home or to a commercial preservation facility.

SHIPMENT: No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with: (a) the name and address of the person sending the birds, (b) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and (c) the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

IMPORTATION: For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country, hunters should consult federal regulations 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66. One fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between a port of entry and one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility. No person shall import migratory game birds killed in any foreign country, except Canada, unless such birds are dressed (except as required above), drawn, and the head and feet are removed. No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another person.

PERMITS AND STAMPS: Waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and over must carry on their person a valid federal *Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp* (federal duck stamp) signed in ink across the face by the user.

DUAL VIOLATION: Violation of state migratory bird regulations is also a violation of federal regulations.

Shot Requirements

Shells possessed or used while hunting waterfowl or coots statewide, and other species as designated by posting on public areas, must be loaded with material approved as nontoxic by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

As of Sept. 8, 2004, shot types approved as being nontoxic are:

- bismuth-tin
- steel
- tungsten-bronze
- tungsten-iron (2 types)
- tungsten-matrix
- tungsten-nickel-iron
- tungsten-polymer
- tungsten-tin-bismuth
- tungsten-tin-iron-nickel

Check the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service website at <http://policy.fws.gov> for up-to-date information.

WATERFOWL STATUS ONLINE

For information about biweekly waterfowl counts, hunting reports throughout the fall, and other waterfowl information, go to: www.missouriconservation.org/hunt/wtrfowl

A summary of continental waterfowl status is available at: <http://migratorybirds.fws.gov/reports/reports.html>

SUNRISE AND SUNSET AT JEFFERSON CITY

DAY	SEPT. 2004		OCT. 2004		NOV. 2004		DEC. 2004		JAN. 2005	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	6:38	7:38	7:05	6:51	6:36	5:08	7:08	4:48	7:27	4:59
2	6:39	7:37	7:06	6:49	6:37	5:07	7:09	4:48	7:27	4:59
3	6:40	7:35	7:07	6:48	6:38	5:06	7:10	4:48	7:27	5:00
4	6:41	7:33	7:08	6:46	6:39	5:05	7:11	4:48	7:27	5:01
5	6:42	7:32	7:09	6:45	6:40	5:04	7:12	4:47	7:27	5:02
6	6:43	7:30	7:10	6:43	6:41	5:03	7:12	4:47	7:27	5:03
7	6:44	7:29	7:11	6:42	6:42	5:02	7:13	4:47	7:27	5:04
8	6:44	7:27	7:11	6:40	6:44	5:01	7:14	4:47	7:27	5:05
9	6:45	7:26	7:12	6:39	6:45	5:00	7:15	4:48	7:26	5:06
10	6:46	7:24	7:13	6:37	6:46	4:59	7:16	4:48	7:26	5:07
11	6:47	7:22	7:14	6:36	6:47	4:58	7:17	4:48	7:26	5:08
12	6:48	7:21	7:15	6:34	6:48	4:58	7:17	4:48	7:26	5:09
13	6:49	7:19	7:16	6:33	6:49	4:57	7:18	4:48	7:26	5:10
14	6:50	7:18	7:17	6:31	6:50	4:56	7:19	4:49	7:25	5:11
15	6:51	7:16	7:18	6:30	6:51	4:55	7:19	4:49	7:25	5:12
16	6:52	7:15	7:19	6:28	6:52	4:55	7:20	4:49	7:25	5:13
17	6:52	7:13	7:20	6:27	6:53	4:54	7:21	4:50	7:24	5:14
18	6:53	7:11	7:21	6:26	6:54	4:53	7:21	4:50	7:24	5:15
19	6:54	7:10	7:22	6:24	6:56	4:53	7:22	4:50	7:23	5:16
20	6:55	7:08	7:23	6:23	6:57	4:52	7:22	4:51	7:23	5:17
21	6:56	7:07	7:24	6:22	6:58	4:52	7:23	4:51	7:22	5:19
22	6:57	7:05	7:25	6:20	6:59	4:51	7:23	4:52	7:22	5:20
23	6:58	7:03	7:26	6:19	7:00	4:51	7:24	4:52	7:21	5:21
24	6:59	7:02	7:27	6:18	7:01	4:50	7:24	4:53	7:20	5:22
25	7:00	7:00	7:28	6:17	7:02	4:50	7:25	4:54	7:20	5:23
26	7:00	6:59	7:30	6:15	7:03	4:49	7:25	4:54	7:19	5:24
27	7:01	6:57	7:31	6:14	7:04	4:49	7:25	4:55	7:18	5:25
28	7:02	6:56	7:32	6:13	7:05	4:49	7:26	4:56	7:17	5:26
29	7:03	6:54	7:33	6:12	7:06	4:48	7:26	4:56	7:17	5:28
30	7:04	6:52	7:34	6:10	7:07	4:48	7:26	4:57	7:16	5:29
31			7:35	6:09			7:26	4:58	7:15	5:30

This table is for Jefferson City and points on the same longitude north and south. For locations east, subtract one minute for each 13.5 miles of airline distance. For locations west, add one minute for each 13.5 miles. Sunrise and sunset from Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 have been converted to daylight-saving time. To calculate the sunrise and sunset times anywhere in the United States, see the U.S. Naval Observatory web site: <http://aa.usno.navy.mil/>

HARVEST SURVEY NEEDS YOUR RESPONSE

When you purchase your *Migratory Bird Hunting Permit*, the vendor asks you a series of questions about your last year's migratory bird hunting activities. The answers you provide place you in a category with other migratory bird hunters by type and amount of hunting activity. This allows the Conservation Department and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, through the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program, to use harvest surveys to sample hunters from each category. This extremely important survey information is considered when establishing migratory bird hunting seasons each year. If you are one of the hunters selected to receive a survey, please complete and return it even if you did not hunt or were unsuccessful while afield. By completing the survey, you are doing your part to help manage these important migratory birds.

2004-2005 Waterfowl Seasons

ZONE	YOUTH DAYS	DUCKS & COOTS	PINTAILS & CANVASBACKS	CANADA GEESE & BRANT	WHITE-FRONTED GEESE	BLUE, SNOW, ROSS'S GEESE
NORTH	Oct. 23-24	Oct. 30-Dec. 28	Oct. 30-Nov. 28	Sept. 25-Oct. 11 Oct. 30-Nov. 28 Dec. 26-Jan. 24	Oct. 30-Jan. 23	Oct. 30-Jan. 24
MIDDLE	Oct. 30-31	Nov. 6-Jan. 4	Nov. 6-Dec. 5	Sept. 25-Oct. 14 Nov. 6-30 Jan. 1-30	Nov. 6-Jan. 30	Nov. 6-Jan. 30
SOUTH-EAST	same as Middle	same as Middle	same as Middle	same as South	same as South	same as South
SOUTH	Nov. 20-21	Nov. 26-Jan. 24	Nov. 26-Dec. 25	Oct. 2-12 Nov. 26-Jan. 30	Nov. 6-Jan. 30	Nov. 6-Jan. 30

The **Conservation Order** for light geese will be in effect from **Jan. 25 through April 30, 2005**, in the North Zone and **Jan. 31 through April 30, 2005**, in the Middle, Southeast and South zones.

During the Conservation Order hunters may use electronic calls, unplugged shotguns, and shoot from 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset with no daily bag or possession limit. See p. 5 for details.